



St Luke's Catholic Academy Newsletter

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This week our theme as we lit the advent candle was PEACE. Peace in our homes, peace in our school and peace in the wider world. John The Baptist is sent to prepare the way for Jesus's coming and bring peace to all who follow his message. This week our children have shared their peace with one another and in our community sending beautiful carol recordings and messages to those who will be in hospital at Princess Alexandra this Christmas. We are really proud of their desire to share the peace of Christmas with all - **Mrs AM Kendal**

"Do not be afraid of what God asks of you! It is worth saying 'yes' to God. In him we find joy." **Pope Francis**

Pupil of the Week: Pupils who gained a certificate this week are:

Reception – Freddie
Year 1 – Eryka
Year 2 – Munachim
Year 3 – Sofia
Year 4 – John-Isaac
Year 5 – Charlie C
Year 6 – Rosie



House Points: Well done to St Bernadette this week's winners with 175 points!

St Bernadette – 175
St Francis – 149
St Paul – 168
St Theresa – 154
St Thomas More – 131
St Anne Line – 140

Year of the Family: Pope Francis has declared this is the year of the family. As we begin this journey we focus on the importance of our family. Nursery have shared with us how important their family is to them. See their lovely display at the top of the newsletter.

New Reception: Applications are now open for Reception Class September 2022. You will need to apply via: [Primary school places - Essex County Council](#) by the 15th January 2022. **All applications to St Luke's will additionally require a SIF to be completed which can be found [here](#) on our website or requested from the school office.**

Twice weekly LFT: With the rise in COVID-19 infections in primary school age children, we encourage you to help limit the spread of the infection by testing your child twice-weekly. You can collect Lateral Flow Test kits from your local pharmacy using one of the codes provided [Here](#).

Community Embrace: Community Embrace works within Harlow helping and supporting the

local community. Their aim is to promote diversity, advance cohesion, and encourage dialogues by connecting communities. We do this by bringing people of diverse backgrounds together through food and culture. Through the gatherings and activities that we put together we tackle food poverty, reduce loneliness, encourage social inclusion, and support people's mental health. This month they have launched the Harlow Pantry and well being hub. It costs £5 per adult and £2.50 each week. The first session will be on: Saturday 11th December between 2.30 and 4pm.

Holy Cross First Holy Communion: Holy Cross Church are hoping to start their First Holy Communion programme in March. If your child is in Year 3 and would like to make their first holy communion at Holy Cross please contact Claire Selwood on hxslyouth@outlook.com

Carol Singing: On Thursday afternoon a group of children, who have been rehearsing with Mrs Kendal during their lunch times, visited the gardens of Abbot Care Home. From the garden they sang lots of lovely carols to help them feel festive and really brought a smile to the residents faces. Children from the whole school had prepared some special Christmas cards to take too. What a wonderful way to share the Christmas message with our local community.

Christmas Dinner: On Wednesday we all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas dinner in our classes. The afternoon was spent making Christmas Crafts- some of which will be returned home with you this week to decorate your own homes. Thank you to Mrs Fullen and Mrs Platt for doing such a marvellous job...it really was delicious.

NSPCC: The theme of these assemblies was "Speak Out, Stay Safe". Children were taught about "Buddy" who is able to help them to understand what is safe and what is not. He encourages children to speak out if they are unhappy or unsafe and the ChildLine phone number- 0800 1111, which they know by memory.

Craft Afternoon: Reception and Nursery enjoyed a great Christmas Craft afternoon on Tuesday. The children made party hats, Christmas cards, Advent wreaths and snowy biscuits as well as many other festive treats. Thank you to all that attended.

Covid-19: Please be reminded that any child presenting one of the stated symptoms will be sent home for you to arrange a PCR test. The government documentation states the following - "If anyone in your school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, you should send them home and they should follow public health advice." Please also note: If you or any member of your family test positive for Covid, there is not a need for your child to isolate. Children only isolate once they test positive. However, NHS Track and Trace could direct a class or school closure, if the numbers of positive cases rise – please be aware that you may still need to collect your children at short notice. Please do let the school know if you or a family member contract Covid 19, then we can be extra vigilant around the school.

New Dinner Menu: Our new school dinner menu can be located [here](#) on our website.

Attending larger school events: We would like to see proof of a negative Lateral Flow Test when you attend.

Upcoming Dates:

Monday 13th December: 9.05am Key Stage 2 Candlelight Service

Tuesday 14th December: 9.05am Key Stage 2 Candlelight Service

Tuesday 14th December: 2.15pm Year's 1&2 Christmas Production

Wednesday 15th December: 2.15pm Year's 1&2 Christmas Production

Thursday 16th December: 9.15 Nursery and Reception Nativity

Friday 17th December: Children break up for Christmas -finish at 1pm

Tuesday 4th January: Non-Pupil Day

Thursday 13th January: Year 4 Swimming lessons start



Through God's love we learn together, grow together and achieve together.

